CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

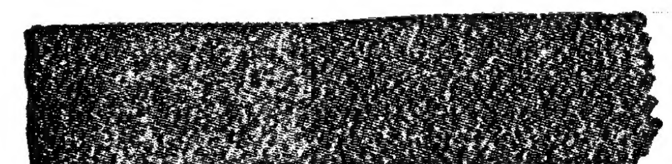
INFORMATION FROM

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT NO. 00-W-24108

CD NO. --

COUNTRY	Algeria; Spain; French Equatorial Africa	DATE OF INFORMATION	1952
SUBJECT	Military - Unconventional aircraft	DATE DIST.	27 Sep 1952
HOW PUBLISHED	Daily and thrice-weekly newspapers		
WHERE PUBLISHED	Tangier; Conakry; Oran; Casablanca	NO. OF PAGES	4
DATE PUBLISHED	22 Apr - 1 Aug 1952	SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.	
LANGUAGE	Spanish; French		


[redacted]

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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

"SAUCERS" SIGHTED OVER SPAIN AND FRENCH AFRICA

GLOWING SPHERES SEEN OVER ALMANSA, SPAIN -- Tangier, Espana, 22 Apr 52

Almansa, 21 April -- At 0800 hours today, many persons saw a series of four glowing spheres crossing the sky along the Murcia-Valencia trajectory at high speed and at a great height. The spheres looked like locks of wool of a vivid reddish color which changed to an intense yellow as they flew farther away. They gradually disappeared in the distance. No unusual sound was heard. The spectacle lasted hardly a minute.

ANDUJAR RESIDENTS REPORT SAUCER -- Tangier, Espana, 1 Aug 52

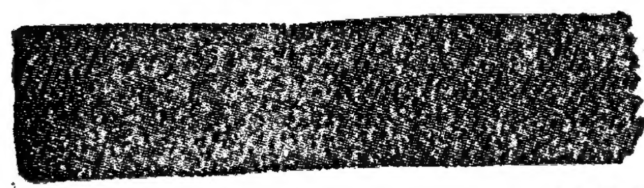
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LUMINOUS OBJECT SEEN OVER PORT GENTIL -- Conakry, La Guinee Francaise, 26 Jun 52

The master of a cargo ship anchored in front of the wharf of Port Gentil /in Gabon, French Equatorial Africa/ reported that at 0240 hours on 1 June 1952 a mysterious object came up from the area behind Port Gentil, made a double loop, passed over the roadstead, and then dived toward the sea at great speed. He submitted the report to the local authorities and to the administrative offices of his company. The following is a summary of his story.

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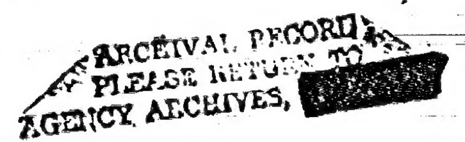
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On 1 June 1952 at 0240 hours, the ship was riding at anchor in the roadstead of Port Gentil, heading 150 degrees. The northern sky was clear and starry; the southern, slightly cloudy. Visibility was excellent, a slight southwest breeze prevailed, and the sea was calm. There was a quarter moon.



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6 Nov 78

CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

						DISTRIBUTION
STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI		



The first mate was at his forward post ready to weigh anchor while the master was on the bridge with the officer on duty. With the exception of the mooring lights, the ship was in complete darkness, thus permitting excellent night visibility.

At 0240, the first mate telephoned the master informing him that he had just sighted an unknown luminous object in the sky which came from Port Gentil and passed directly over the ship. Training his binoculars (Zeiss 7 x 50, for night vision) skyward, the master was able to see quite clearly, on the port quarter, a very bright and phosphorescent orange light, circular in shape and moving at a great speed in a seemingly straight-line course. Standing on the wing of the bridge, and with the aid of the gyrocompass repeater, the master estimated its average direction to be about 10 degrees.

He followed the light quite easily in his binoculars for about 3 minutes and lost sight of it when it moved at great speed over the Prince buoy, about 7 miles from the ship. The master was unaware of any accompanying sound and admits that it was difficult to estimate the altitude of the object, yet he judged this to be 3,000-4,000 meters. Its diameter was that of a planet.

The first mate stated that before he telephoned the master, he saw that object come from the direction of Port Gentil, stop, make a right turn, and resume its initial course. As it passed directly over the ship, it repeated the same sort of gyration.

The master stated that his 20 years of sea duty enabled him to affirm that what he saw was neither a known celestial phenomenon, such as a falling star or meteor, nor a current type of aircraft.

Furthermore, it was confirmed that there were no planes in the air that night over Port Gentil.

STRANGE OBJECTS SEEN IN SKY OVER ALGERIA -- Oran L'Echo d'Oran, 17 Jul 52

At 2300 hours on 15 July 1952, in the town of Boukanefis, two bakers clearly saw a plate-shaped flying object in the sky. It moved with unusual agility, giving off a greenish smoke and lighting up the sky. It seemingly did not alter its course as it increased its speed and disappeared toward the south.

Similarly, in Lamoriciere on 11 July 1952, one Thomas Martinez saw a sudden illumination above and at first took it to be a falling star. Actually, it seemed more like a meteor followed by two other bodies, all trailing a yellow cloud of smoke. Then, these disappeared and out of nowhere appeared an oval-shaped, longish ball of fire. Flying at a low altitude and clearly visible, it rapidly followed a rectilinear course.

STRANGE PHENOMENON WITNESSED FROM TWO POINTS IN ORAN -- Oran, L'Echo d'Oran, 26 Jul 52

Recently [presumably 25 July 1952], several inhabitants of Oran reported seeing a flying saucer at approximately the same time.

At 1535 hours, Raoul Le Henaff, foreman of a local company, saw an incandescent white mass in the sky above Oran. It flew southwestward, traveling at an altitude of about 2,000 meters. There was no luminous exhaust and no smoke. After 30 seconds, the phenomenon grew hazy and disappeared. The personnel of the company office and Palacio, an employee in the Algeronaphte [factory?] also

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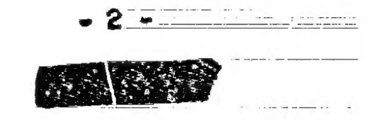
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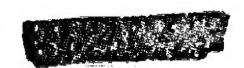
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At 1537 hours, Maurice Dubessay, who works for L'Echo d'Oran, saw what appeared to be a brilliant disk going in a southwest direction at a great speed and at medium altitude. It disappeared after 5 seconds. In a similar time interval, Atias and Karsenty, two grocers, also saw the unknown object before it disappeared behind a cloud.

SAUCERS OBSERVED IN TWO ARRAS OF ORAN -- Oran, L'Echo d'Oran, 28 Jul 52

On 26 July 1952, people in two areas of Oran reported seeing unusual flying objects, described as "saucers."

At about 2300 hours, three women in the Eckmuhl district of Oran noticed a large, orange-red, luminous patch in the sky, of the size of a duck's egg, but flatter. Traveling from east to west, it appeared to halt for a second then vanished.

Three trustworthy individuals living on the Tiaret plateaus saw an unusual flying object at 1045 hours. The local parish observed it for about 40 seconds and described it as a shining, cigar-shaped mass without a smoke trail. It disappeared toward the northwest. A teacher and his wife gave a similar description, adding that the object had a dark center, was in an oblique position, and moved at an altitude of about 3,000 meters. No one heard any sounds of a motor.

CITES SEVERAL APPEARANCES OF FLYING SAUCERS IN ALGERIA -- Casablanca, La Vigie Marocaine, 31 Jul 52

On the evening of 29 July 1952, two new flying saucers were sighted. The first, appearing at 2050 hours over Mostaganem, was visible only a few seconds. The second one appeared at 2300 hours at Ain Teledes. It flew above the city for about a minute, emitting a whitish trail of smoke. The manner in which it attained various altitudes revealed a surprising maneuverability. When it disappeared, it was headed south.

This is the fifth time in a matter of weeks that this phenomenon has been noted in the Department of Oran. A saucer appearing to be about the size of a teacup was observed by two policemen over Frenda (at the east end of Oran Department). It consisted of a dark nucleus within a luminous mass. Near Tlemcen, motorists noted a strange cigar-shaped object at a height of 600 meters. There was a luminous cloud in its wake. And finally, at Lamoriciere, about 40 kilometers from the Abdellys area, motorists saw a phosphorescent disk for a brief period of time.

POINTS TO FREQUENCY OF FLYING SAUCER REPORTS IN ORAN DEPARTMENT -- Oran, L'Echo d'Oran, 31 Jul 52

[After it had received and published a series of flying saucer reports, the newspaper L'Echo d'Oran carried a review of the occurrences, as well as several late reports. The following is a summary of the article.]

Our correspondents have sent us word of saucers appearing everywhere in Oran Department during the past few days. This seems to be the saucers' favorite area, one which is no doubt salutary for their development. They have appeared here with greater frequency than in France or the US. It is impossible, moreover, to doubt the veracity of the observers, since they include policemen, colons, a priest, and a cadi.

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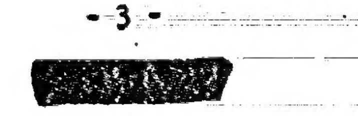
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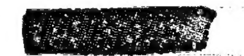
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At 0400 hours today, Raymond Botella, a Public Works Department employee in Tlemcen, saw a flying object moving rapidly north and trailing a whitish smoke cloud. A half hour before, the mysterious saucer had been seen in Oued Taria, traveling at the same speed and, like the saucer observed yesterday, making abrupt turns and changes of direction.

On the night of 30 July, in Sainte Barbe du Tlelat, a police adjutant, two policemen, and a cadi observed a luminous flying object for about 30 seconds. The daily police reports will henceforth include all such observations by the police.

In the morning of 30 July, a resident of Algiers saw, for several seconds, a shining black disk on the horizon. It made a rapid vertical descent, then suddenly moved in a horizontal direction. *

Two observations were made in Lodi. On 25 July, at about 2130 hours, a yellowish object flew at a dizzy speed in the sky, and on 28 July, at 2150 hours, a much larger object appeared for several seconds; it had the shape of an inverted cone.

OBSERVE UNUSUAL FLYING OBJECT FOR OVER A MINUTE -- Oran, L'Echo d'Oran, 1 Aug 52

At 1130 hours on 31 July 1952, an Oran resident and his wife, while driving on the road between Saint Denis Du Sig and Le Tlelat, saw something flying in the sky about 1,000 meters up. They stopped the car and watched its course for about 1½ minutes. It was spindle shaped and tapered at both ends. It differed from ordinary aircraft in that it showed no exhaust smoke, made no noise, and had a great speed.


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